

Petition P5-0002, filed on behalf of Washington State seed potato producers.

**Background:**

On January 21, 2005, the ***Federal Register*** published notice that the Spokane Hutterian Brethren, Reardan, Washington, representing seed potato producers in the state of Washington, had filed a petition for trade adjustment assistance.

The petition indicated that the marketing year impacted by imports was February - May 2004. The 5-year base period used for the purpose of a price comparison began February 1999.

The petition identified imports of seed potatoes under Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) number 0701.10.00 as like or directly competitive with Washington seed potatoes.

**Analysis:**

In their petition for assistance, the Spokane Hutterian Brethren indicated that imports of lower priced seed potatoes produced in Alberta and Saskatchewan, Canada, adversely impacted the market for Washington seed potatoes over the last 4 to 6 years. However, based on U.S. import data, seed potato imports during February - May 2004 declined 20 percent from the same period in 2003. On a calendar year basis, imports declined 27 percent.

**Reason for denial of petition:**

Because imports did not increase during the marketing period, a required condition for trade adjustment assistance, the petition was denied. Notice was published in the ***Federal Register*** on March 4, 2005.